

has been added to the specification through the below amendments.

The specification has been amended at page 4, lines 2-12 as follows.

A1
According to the invention, SONET UPSR protection is effected by configuring a TDM switch to route TDM traffic from two receive circuits to the same destination. Based on UPSR traffic qualification, one copy of this traffic is discarded in the TDM switch so that only a single copy is passed through the TDM switch. Based upon received performance measurements, the circuit performing the discard operation can change. The same or similar mechanism can be used to protect against equipment failure and accommodate removal of one of the receive circuits.

The specification has been amended at page 7, lines 2-10 as follows.

A2
FIGURE 1 is a block diagram of a TDM communication network 10 according to the invention. The nodes 12, 14, 16 and 18 may each include TDM switches as described below. Signal source 13 routes its traffic into node 12 which directs duplicate signals to node 18 via two paths, one through node 14 and node 16 and the other to node 18. Node 18 receives both signals, selects the best or preferred signal, and routes the selected signal to a destination 19.

IN THE CLAIMS

For the convenience of the Examiner, all pending claims of the present Application are shown below whether or not an amendment has been made. Please refer to any attached sheets